THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). An inquiry has been ordered . The report the inquiry is awaited.

**Multi Access Rural Radio System**

3045. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH :
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :

will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of village Panchayats provided with PCO services by the M.A.R.R. system in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent thereon, year-wise;

(c) whether due to lack of maintenace, majority of telephones are lying dead in Bhind and Morena; and

(d) If so, the steps taken by the Government to make them perfact?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The number of village Panchayats provided with PCOs by MARR systems are 4798 in 1993-94, 3050 in 1994-95 and 918 in 1995-96.

(b) The amount spent for the three years, year-wise is Rs. 5997.5 lakhs in 1993-94, Rs. 3812.5 lakhs in 1994-95 and Rs. 1147.0 lakhs in 1995-96.

(c) Only few telephones are faulty.

(d) The efforts to attend the faults have been increased. Guidelines/Instructions have been issue to the field units to increase the efforts to repair the faults. Procedure for health check and testing of MARR systems has been prescribed.

*[English]*

**Telephone Exchanges in Kerala**

3046. SHRI G M BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the names of telephone exchanges under expansion/modernisation in Malappuram district of Kerala;

(b) the details of expansion, additional capacity envisaged, estimated cost, actul capacity addition estimated and the financial allocation made in the current financial year; and

(c) the time by when the work commenced and the time by which it is expected to be concluded?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) As given in the Statement-I.

(b) As given in the Statement-II

(c) The work commenced in April, 1996 and is likely to be concluded by March 1997.

**STATEMENT-I**

*Names of Telephone Exchanges under expansion/ modernisation in Malappuram district of Kerala*

| Sl.No. | Name of Exchange |
|---|---|
| 1. | Nanjeri |
| 2. | Kottakkal |
| 3. | Malappuram |
| 4. | Tirur |
| 5. | Parappanangadi |
| 6. | Tirurangadi |
| 7. | Perinthalmanna |
| 8. | Kondotty |
| 9. | Chelari |
| 10. | Tanur |
| 11. | Marancherry |
| 12. | Makaraparamba |
| 13. | Mankada |
| 14. | Edapal |
| 15. | Changaramkulam |
| 16. | Melattur |
| 17. | Kadampuzha |
| 18. | Dulamanthole |
| 19. | Ponnani |
| 20. | Thavannur |

**STATEMENT-II**

*Details of expansion/additional capacity envisaged/ estimated cost etc. for Malappuram district for the year 1996-97*

| | |
|---|---|
| (i) Total additional capacity Proposed to be installed | (Gross Lines=3238 Lines) |
| (ii) Total actual additional capacity likely to be added | (Net Lines=20868 Lines) |
| (iii) Total estimated cost | = Rs. 51.72 crores |
| (iv) Financial allocation made in the current financial year | = Rs. 474 crores for Kerala Circle. N separate allocation of funds is receive exclusively for Malappuram distric |